

HIGH FESTIVAL OF NEWSPAPER WITS

Annual Fall Dinner of the Gridiron Club at National Capital.

GOOD-NATURED GRILLING

Democratic Aspirants for the Presidency Chief Feature of the Entertainment.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Politics, past, present and future, was the dominant note at the annual fall dinner of the Gridiron club tonight. President Taft was there, with members of his cabinet; Vice President Sherman, senators and representatives in Congress; late presidential possibilities; newly-elected governors of states and men of mark in various positions and of all shades of political belief, and ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary of foreign countries, who were numbered among the club's guests, heard with wonder the good-natured grilling administered by the newspaper men to their victims. With tableaux and comedy sketch and topical song, in clever speech and moving picture, the incidents of the last campaign were recalled and grim forecast made of the future.

And right wittily and with many a scintillating thrust of oratory did the objects of this attention retort upon their tormentors. Forgiveness for the moment was party differences; victor and vanquished joined hand and glove in repelling the attack of their critics.

Taft as Mikado.

Clearing the way for the incoming Democracy, "Uncle Joe" Cannon was swept aside, and in a skill embodying a parody upon the Mikado, he was sentenced to decapitation. It was left to him to select his executioner. Victor Murdock, he declared, was "too hasty," while he feared Senator La Follette would talk him to death. "The man he selected as of strong arm and sure, an old friend, was 'Ko Ko' Longworth. Just in the nick of time President Taft, in the person of the Mikado, stayed the hand of the executioner and commuted 'Uncle Joe's' sentence to staying in Congress, as a helpless minority, and to being chained to his seat during the debate on the House rules. The catchy chorus of the Mikado's song ran:

"My smile is still serene,
As plainly may be seen,
No matter how they jump the track
And batter the old machine;
For I am quite content
To do the work that's meant
For a big American President,
American President."

A furious cracking of whips and clanking of chains, and roars of "God-dap" and stamping of hoofs signalled the approach of a tumultuous party from outside. It portrayed the redemption of Champ Clark's famous abdication pledge to ride down Pennsylvania avenue behind a team of mules if he were elected speaker. The actor who represented Mr. Clark was clothed in farmer's costume, with big whip, overalls, wide felt hat and hickory shirt. He was riding a two-wheeled cart, cracking his whip and shouting at his mules, christened "Bob" and "Fliz." Dragging behind in heavy chains were Cannon, Dabzell and Payne. At every other step the ex-speaker yelled defiantly "Dictator!" "Car!"

Olie James introduced Clark as the new speaker, and the latter promptly sentenced his prisoners to various punishments, such as the assignment of Cannon to the chairmanship of the committee on "disposition of useless paper" (where the Aldrich-Payne-smoot tariff was considered), while Payne and Dabzell were to be trampled by Olie James. Clark undertook to define his policies, but had only gotten to the point where he declared for free trade when the party broke up in a row.

"Miss Democracy."

Few of the guests at first could

recognize the dainty little lady, "Miss Democracy." In the brawny, big-muscled, large-voiced and bass-voiced female in evening dress who occupied in solitary state the place of honor on the Democratic band wagon which drew up on the stage. Hanging on were various candidates for the presidential office, but the lady, while coy, was also firm in her attitude and presented a face of flint to her suitors. She announced that she was not a simpering old maid, but was militant; that she was taking this joy ride for the first time in sixteen years and had chartered it for quite a spell, too. When the President sought to expel her, she defied him, saying that he talked "like T. R. before election day."

At the critical moment Governor Judson Harmon came to the rescue and climbed into the band wagon. When his right was challenged he declared that he was the logical candidate, the friend of the masses, and the classes were friends of his. But Miss Democracy decided that he would have to wait for two years to see what he could do with a Democratic legislature, so Harmon climbed down.

Dix was the next aspirant for favor, claiming his seat by virtue of a ticket bearing an "O. K." by Charles F. Murphy, and because of his versatility, but Miss Democracy insisted that the trouble with the Democratic party for the past twenty-five years was that it had been "too damned versatile," and Dix was thrown off.

Off Went Baldwin.

Judge Baldwin made an effort to climb into a seat on the ground that he was a great legal light, but Miss Democracy asked: "What has law got to do with the Democratic party? The Republicans made all the laws. We are going to make new ones," and off went Baldwin.

Foss had no better luck when he tried to "butt in," for the best that Miss Democracy would promise was to look him over after he had gone out to save Lodge.

Woodrow Wilson had his turn on the strength of being the "National Fossil," but Democracy said that what was wanted was a "National Silence," while as to his claim of Virginia birth, she said, "You shook your mother at an early age. Get off."

Her demand for some other qualifications than whiskers sent Kern to the right about, and when Folk endeavored to board the vehicle with an endorsement from Bryan, he was hit over the head with a stuffed club. Bryan himself was not even allowed to set foot on the wagon step, and as the various candidates were quarreling among themselves, Wall Street, personified by a portly gentleman in silk hat and wearing much jewelry, seized the matter by dragging off Miss Democracy with the declaration that "I am the person who will decide who'll ride on that wagon."

The Republican element among the guests, while enjoying the tribulations of the Democratic candidates, had their mirth tempered from time to time as the hall was darkened for a few moments while a projecting lantern threw upon the screen bulletins showing how the tidal wave of Democracy was sweeping over the one-time Republican strongholds.

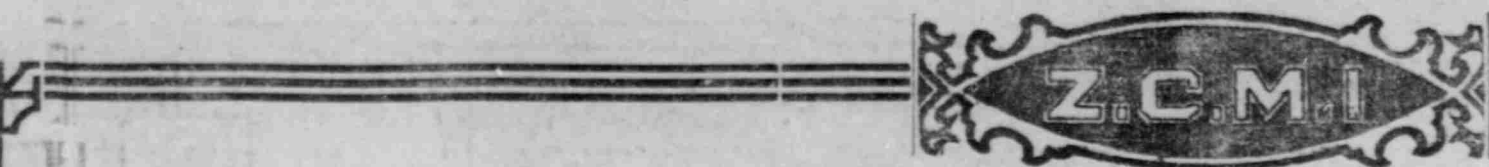
Notable Guests.

Among the guests of the evening were: President Taft, Vice President Sherman, Secretary Ballinger, Secretary Knox, Secretary MacVane, Secretary Nagel, Attorney General Wickes, Postmaster General Hitchcock, the Mexican ambassador, Major General Wood, chief of staff, Speaker Cannon, Senators Aldrich, Beveridge, Bourne, Carter, Crane, Flint, Johnson and Warren, Representatives Champ Clark, Payne, Pearce, Carlin, Dabzell, Ramsdell, Underwood, Simmons, Weeks, J. Hampton Moore, J. Ogden Armour of Chicago, George B. Colleton of New York, Major General Thomas H. Barry, Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards, former Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks, Life Pence of Colorado, William B. Howland, the Outlook, New York, Frank R. Noyes, Washington Evening Star, Franklin K. Lane, interstate commerce commission, Victor F. Lawson, Chicago Daily News, Albert Shaw, Review of Reviews, Raab Abraham Simon, New York, John A. Steyer, Leslie's Weekly, ex-Senator Nelson S. Squire, Washington, Tong Kabin and Lung Tun Yen, Pekin, China, and M. H. de Young, San Francisco.

ECZEMA

CAN BE CURED. My mild, soothing, guaranteed cure does it and FREE SAMPLE proves it. STOPS THE ITCHING and cures to stay. WRITE NOW—TODAY.

Dr. Cannaday, 187 Park St., Sedalia, Mo.



NOW COMES THE GREAT

Sale of Dresses and Furs

For Three Days—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday—our entire line of Dresses and Furs at one-fourth off. The continued fine weather makes it imperative that we reduce stock, hence these reductions. It will pay you to choose early while selection is good—there is sure to be a big demand for these stylish Dresses and Furs at such reductions.



Dresses One-Fourth Off

Our entire line of Dresses—cloths, silks, velvets for evening, party and dance functions. Each reduction is absolutely genuine. For three days only, your choice at One-Fourth Off.

Brocaded Silks Half Price

A special line of handsome brocaded silks, suitable for waists, hand bags, fancy work, trimmings, etc. Regular \$2.25 to \$6.00 a yard for Half Price.

Skirts One-Fourth Off

Entire line of Skirts—serges, Panamas, voiles, silks and men's wear goods in all the new models, black and colors, ranging from \$6 to \$35 at One-Fourth Off.

85c Children's School Umbrellas, 22 inch, for 65c.

Furs One-Fourth Off

From the most economically priced to the more expensive furs, new fresh goods selected from the early pelts of the season, as well as all children's fur sets.

The variety comprises natural mink, Japanese mink, Australian mink, brook mink, black fox, white fox, sable, opossum, fine raccoon, black and brown coney, black marten, Russian hare, near seal, marmot, silver and black wolf.

For three days your choice of our entire line at One-Fourth Off.

75c Kimono Silk 60c

A line of figured Kimono Silks, especially suitable for ladies' and misses' short and long Kimonos, 31½ inches wide, regular 75c a yard, all this week, a yard, 60c.



ONLY 12 SHOPPING DAYS NOW

Economic Holiday Suggestions

FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Nothing will be appreciated more than an artistic slipper or shoe.

SHOE GIFTS

We are showing the finest line of shoes in the city. Shoes to suit everybody in the most up-to-date styles and patterns. Always appropriate—always appreciated—you couldn't buy anything more useful.

SLIPPER GIFTS

Suitable gifts for either sex—a very handsome variety, each pair particularly stylish and comfortable.

Crockery Dept. Gifts

Greater variety than ever before—Elegant cut glass, largest assortment of white china in the city—special instruments to china painters. Glassware—foreign and domestic. Dinner sets, toilet sets, game and tea sets, fish sets, berry and ice cream sets, chocolate sets, silverware—sterling and plated in sets and cloths in many styles; jardiniere, flower vases and odd pieces for every purpose; holders, figures, hand-painted china, brass goods, paper napkins and many novelties.

Carpet Dept. Gifts

Axminster rugs, Wilton velvets, Brussels rugs, washable bath rugs, Bissell's carpet squares, paragon girldes, drapery silks, lace curtains, Irish point curtains, Cluny curtains, Battenberg curtains, Madras curtains, Nottingham curtains and tapestry curtains.

SPLENDID LINE OF GENUINE NAVAJO BLANKETS.

Appropriate Gift Suggestions at a Glance

FOR HIM

Toilet Sets, Shaving Sets, Ink Wells, Glove Boxes, Military Brushes, Manicure Sets, House Coats, Bathrobes, Dressing Gowns, Sweaters, Shirts, Underwear, Socks, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Silk or Plain, Neckwear, Suspenders.

FOR HER

Toilet Sets, Manicure Sets, Beveled Mirrors, Jewel Cases, Handkerchief Boxes, Fancy Work Boxes, Black Silks, Powder Boxes, Colored Silks, Dress Goods, Umbrellas, Watch Fobs, Finger Rings, Scarf Pins, Cuff Links, Tool chests, Carvers, Razors, Safety Razors, Skates, Handkerchief Boxes, Necktie Boxes, Collar & Cuff Boxes.

Evening Coats, Elegant Cut Glass, Dinner Sets, Chocolate Sets, Silverware, Bracelets, Brooches, Finger Rings, Diamonds, Hat Pins, Black Combs, Necklaces, Beads, Hand Bags, Purse, Lace Collarettes, Fancy Bracelets, Fancy Hosiery, Newport.

Gifts for Men and Boys

A complete line of sensible presents that will give satisfaction.

Suits and Overcoats, gents' house coats, gents' bath robes, gents' dressing gowns, sweaters, shirts, underwear, plain and fancy socks, gents' gloves, mufflers, handkerchiefs—silk and linen, neckwear, suspenders, gents' umbrellas, gents' and boys' canes, trunks, suitcases and bags.

Nice variety of leather toilet cases, and a splendid line of suitcases and bags with these fixtures.

Hardware Dept. Gifts

Tool cabinets, boys' tool chests, knives and forks, carving, bread knives, pocket knives, razors, safety razors, scissors, shears, skates, for boys, girls, ladies and gentlemen; ranges, heaters, meat choppers, asbestos and iron, aluminum ware and lap robes.

THE FINEST SHOWING OF CARVERS WE HAVE EVER HAD—BE SURE AND SEE THEM.

Jewelry Gifts

Beautiful gifts at prices considerably less than those of any jewelry store in town.

Watches, an elegant line of black bracelets, cuff links, coral beads, combs from 75c up, scarf pins, brooches, finger rings, pearl beads, fancy bags, collar supporters, necklaces.

And a fine assortment of illustrated postal cards and Christmas postal cards.

Handkerchiefs

Women's Embroidered Hemstitched Linen Handkerchiefs, regular price 20c each, special 12½c each.

Women's Embroidered Hemstitched Linen Handkerchiefs, regular price 35c each, special 20c each.

Children's Handkerchiefs, 2 in. box, at 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c a box.

Women's fine Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched and embroidered in dainty designs, 20c, 25c, 35c and 75c each.

Women's fine Linen Handkerchiefs, hemstitched and HAND embroidered, 20c, 25c, 35c, 75c and up.

Women's fine LINEN Handkerchiefs with embroidered initials, 12½c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 60c, and 75c each.

Women's Plain LINEN Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 15c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 50c, 60c and 75c each.

Women's Swiss embroidered Handkerchiefs, scalloped and hemstitched, 15c, 25c and 35c each.

Kid Gloves

Women's Pique street gloves, black, white and all colors and all sizes. The best glove in the market to wear at the price. Special \$1.25.

"Genoble" fine French REAL KID over-seam Gloves, in black, white and all colors. A most perfect fitting glove. Would be good value at \$2, special price \$1.50.

"Trefousse" pique street Gloves, the French REAL KID. Beautifully finished. Black and all colors and all sizes. A perfect article from a glove maker's point of view and only \$1.75.

"Phoenix" Knit Mufflers, white and colors, 35c each.

Plaided Rufflings in great variety. Persians, plaids, plain colors, laces, etc., from 35c to \$1 a yard.

Black velvet hand bags, just arrived, \$2.25 and up. great variety, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Leather Hand Bags, in great variety, \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Ladies' Gloves

Women's out-seam gloves for street wear. In tans only. Special \$1.25 a pair.

Women's out-seam gloves for street wear in tans only. Special \$1.25 a pair.

Women's MOCHA pique gloves, tans and grays. Special only \$1.25 a pair.

"Trefousse" fine French real kid over-seam gloves, with fancy embroidered backs, in all the best colors. Only \$2.00 a pair.

Women's and children's Knit GOLF Gloves, all colors and qualities, 35c to 75c a pair.

Women's Neckwear

Jabots in great variety from 25c to \$2.50 each.

Fancy stock collars. A variety and complete assortment from 25c to \$2.50.

Knit Mufflers, white and colors, 35c each.

"Phoenix" Knit Mufflers, white and colors, 50c, 65c, 75c and \$1.25.

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